

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Hiroyuki MINEMURA  
Serial No.: 10/643,975  
Filed: August 20, 2003  
Title: INFORMATION REPRODUCING METHOD AND AN INFORMATION REPRODUCING DRIVE UTILIZING PRML TO OUTPUT BINARY VALUES  
Group: 2627  
Examiner: DANIELSEN, Nathan Andrew  
Confirmation No.: 4972

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 AND 1.98**

**Mail Stop: AMENDMENT**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

October 17, 2007

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find a copy of a Japanese Office Action, dated July 17, 2007, issued in corresponding Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-115871, and copies of the reference cited therein. Also enclosed are Forms PTO/SB/08A&B, listing the enclosed documents.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted subsequent to a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application, but prior to a Final Office Action or issuance of a Notice of Allowance, or issuance of any other action closing prosecution on the merits in the above-identified application. Accordingly, the fee of \$180.00 is enclosed herewith.

The following Statement is made under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e):

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

To the extent that the enclosed references are not in English, it is respectfully submitted that requirements of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) are satisfied by the enclosed English language Abstracts of JP 2001-035095 and JP 1996-148916 and the English language U.S. equivalents of JP 10-091965 (USP 5,796,693), JP 2000-285612 (USP 6,683,922) and JP 2002-175673 (US Appln. No. 2002/0071194).

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with the present submission of the enclosed documents. Accordingly, consideration of the enclosed documents, during examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

Applicants request any shortage or excess in fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, and for which no other form of payment is offered, be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 Case: 1021.43050X00).

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: October 17, 2007